

# CITIZENS FLAY ATTACK ON OFFICER

## 2 Die, 12 Hurt at Phoenix In 3 Hour Soldier Riot

### Smoldering Feeling Flares into Violence; Jail 180 During Probe

PHOENIX, Ariz., Dec. 4. (ANP)—With some 180 soldiers in jail, military authorities early this week were busy investigating all circumstances surrounding the three hour riot Thanksgiving night which resulted in the death of one soldier and one civilian and the wounding of 12 other soldiers and civilians, some of them white.

However, unlike previous riots involving members of the armed forces, this began as an all-Negro affair. Whites entered only when the battle actually started and Negro military police sent in a hurry call for reinforcements which brought in white MPs and city policemen.

Army officials are chiefly concerned over how the soldiers were able to obtain the guns and ammunition they used in the riot. Brig. Gen. T. K. Brown, Camp Lockett, Cal., who commands the southern land frontier sector, said the troops "obtained some weapons and ammunition from their camp at 'Papago Park' while others were armed with pistols, evidently obtained from civilians." Of those arrested, he asserted that only about 25 or 30 were involved in the shooting.

The dead were:  
Robert Riley, 44, civilian, found with a bullet through his head seated behind the wheel of an automobile. Three soldiers who fled from his car were killed.

An unidentified soldier whose body was found sprawled in the street soon after the shooting began.

Negro military police shot were: Pvt. Augustus Copeland, 27, abdomen wound;

Cpt. Irvin Anderson, 24, left hand.

Negro nonmilitary personnel shot were:

Dolores Thompson, 17, left thigh. Negro soldiers shot included Sgt. Charles H. Hearn, 25, in back; Pvt. Lee Carpenter, 30, left hip; Pvt. Bennie Bush, 34, left calf, and Pvt. Charles R. Henry, 22, left foot. White military men injured were:

First Lieutenant August J. Essman, 39, abdomen; Pvt. Pasqual Romano, 21, left arm, and Pvt. Chester Wojcik, 24, back.

The riot was blamed on long standing ill feeling between the 733d military police battalion and the 364th infantry. Both are Negro outfits. This bad feeling was fanned into a flame Thanksgiving night by a cafe fight when an MP from the 733d sought to arrest a soldier in a cafe after the latter, in a dispute with a girl, smashed a bottle on her head. When the MP was called, the soldier resisted arrest, ignored his command to halt, and charged the MP with a knife.

The MP fired a warning shot at the concrete floor. The bullet ricocheted, striking the soldier in the leg. In the confusion, both MPs and soldiers rushed up but there was no further shooting.

About 15 minutes later, there was a brief flareup a few doors away but this was quelled. It was about 40 minutes later that the real riot started.

It began when some 150 or more soldiers from the 364th were lined up preliminary to boarding buses for their return to camp. A "Jeep" approached carrying MP's, followed by a civilian car in which soldiers.

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### Louisville Lawyer Fights Bus Bias

## Indianapolis Recorder

VOLUME XLVII FIRST SECTION SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1942 NUMBER 1

## Lockefield Lowers Rent Schedule

### Prescott Seated As Chi Judge



Gov. Green, Judge Patrick B. Prescott, Mrs. Prescott, Sen. Brooks, and Richard J. Lyons (left to right) as Judge Prescott was inducted to Municipal bench for two weeks.

### GROUP TO CITE DETROIT PHONE FIRM TO FEPC

DETROIT, Michigan.—Assailing the Michigan Bell Telephone company for its refusal to employ Negroes in a manner acceptable to the Fair Employment Practice Committee, the Detroit NAACP branch this week warned the company that unless some effort is made toward correction of the problem, it can be expected that the company will be cited to the governmental authority.

The Detroit branch of which Gloster B. Current is Executive secretary urged the formation of a committee composed of interested Negro and white citizens. For the past several months the Michigan company has advertised widely for workers. Upon application a Negro woman was told that the company only hired colored girls in its colored office and in the main building only as elevator operators.

### TILLEY ADMITS E'SIDE KILLING,

James DeWitt Tilley, 23, wanted in connection with the stabbing death of William Smith, 24, several months ago was already indicted on a first degree murder charge when he was arrested last week on a charge of robbery. He gave his name then as Willard Smock.

Evidence had already been collected by detectives of the homicide bureau and the grand jury had ruled on the case even before Tilley was arrested on the other charge. Tilley admitted to detectives that he did the stabbing at 19th and Yandes streets, but would not sign a statement.

## 3 Workers Covered by Tons Of Dirt Survive Cave-in

### Files Test Case

### On Policy; Ousted Woman Gets Pneumonia

LOUISVILLE, Dec. 4. (ANP)—Mrs. Rosa Beasley prominent Louisville political and civic worker, filed a suit in the Louisville Circuit Court last week for \$1,800 in what purports to be a test case against the Chauden Bus Company and its policy of segregation and seating Negro passengers on its buses in Kentucky. The suit was filed by Charles W. Anderson, Jr., attorney and state representative,

who for the past three years has waged a fight in the legislature and courts against the segregation of Negroes on buses.

Kentucky does not have a law separating the races on buses or street cars but drivers of buses or street cars but drivers of buses invariably put Negro passengers in the rear or re-seat them during a trip if additional white passengers got on at various points. In the

1940 session of the Kentucky General Assembly, Mr. Anderson defeated a bill sponsored by a white law-maker to separate the races on buses by a glass panel partition.

Mrs. Beasley, around whom the case centers, stated in her petition that on Sept. 29 she purchased a round trip ticket from Louisville to LaGrange, Ky. On returning from LaGrange when the bus arrived at Lynden, about 29 miles from Louisville, the operator stopped on the highway after some white passengers boarded the bus and "in a boisterous, rude, insulting, high-handed and oppressive manner, ordered and demanded that Mrs. Beasley move from the seat which she was occupying next to the last row of seats on the bus, to the last row of seats." When she refused to move, the driver called the Jefferson County police to arrest her. When the officers arrived and made an investigation of the complaint of the driver, they refused to arrest Mrs. Beasley. Then the driver, says the petition, informed Mrs. Beasley that he would not let her re-enter the bus from where she had talked to the police officers on the highway. She said it was during one of the cold days in September, and that for some weeks prior to the incident she had been ill and under the care of a physician, and that from standing and walking along the highway, she contracted pneumonia, and was ill for approximately three weeks.

Dr. Guy Grant again is president of the RECORDER Good Fellows Christmas Cheer Fund. Mrs. Elizabeth Douglass, vice president; Frank Beckwith, director; Marcus C. Stewart, treasurer; Lowell Trice, chairman of the Youth Division; Fenton Bluestein, chairman of the Senior Division, and Mrs. Garnett James, chairman of the Women's Division.

### BODY OF FUGITIVE FOUND

PARIS, Ill., Dec. 4.—The body of James Edward Person, 33, a native of Tennessee whom a posse had shot more than six weeks ago as he escaped in a timber tract, was found near here Saturday. He was sought for having allegedly "terrorized farm residents" in this section during his search for food.

Three workmen, caught in an 18-foot ditch when melting snow caused a cave-in at the Allison division of General Motors Monday afternoon, were rescued from beneath several tons of dirt as other workers quickly uncovered their heads and rushed a huge power crane into the task of digging out the victims.

After more than an hour of work the men, Matthew Stewart, 317 Blake st., Emmett Jackson, 630 1/2 North West street, and Dennis Albrit, 2108 Martindale, were rescued. Stewart suffered a bruised left shoulder and Jackson sustained abrasions on his right leg. City hospital authorities revealed. The men were treated at City hospital but were not admitted to the institution, it was disclosed.

Work of rescuing the men was aggravated by succeeding cave-ins and boards placed along the sides of the ditch aided but little. No report on the condition of the men was readily available late Tuesday afternoon.

### MURDER TRIAL STARTS HERE

The trial of Garnett Ryan, 49 years old, 2725 Ranklin place, charged with the murder of Eugene Stevens, 28 years old, same address, began Wednesday in Marion County Criminal Court.

Stevens died in City Hospital fifty minutes after he had been shot with a 12-gauge shotgun in the hands of Ryan at their home on the evening of April 11th, this year. Police learned that the men had been engaged in an argument off and on for several days. The jury was empaneled today (Thursday) and evidence for the state is being presented to them. Detective Sergeant Jack Small, of the police homicide bureau, is to testify. Edwin Steers and John Hafferty represent the state and Attorney Henry R. Wilson represents the defense.

### WAR INCOMES, HOUSING LACK ARE CONSIDERED

The 748 families living in Lockefield Garden Apartments, federally operated housing project for low income tenants, received notice today of the lowered rent schedule effective January 1, 1943. General reductions in rent were announced for families in the lower income brackets and all families will be permitted to earn substantially more than at present before any change will occur in their rentals. Bottom rents will be \$10 a month, including heat, light, and refrigeration for families earning below \$600 a year and will range to \$18 a month for families earning up to \$1150.

Rents are based upon a policy of charge approximately 20% of income (with deductions for social security and dependents living outside the family). Persons with higher incomes ranging from \$1150 to \$1550 a year will be charged up to \$25 a month. No families will be admitted to the project as a new tenants if their total incomes exceed \$1550, but present residents earning more than this amount will not be compelled to move from the development until suitable housing is available from private landlords. Rents will be higher for these families able to pay a larger share of the cost of maintaining the project, but all rents will be below the maximum ceiling of \$26 for a three room and \$40 for a four or five room dwelling, including all utilities.

The Office of Price Administration rent regulations provide that for subsidized housing of this type the maximum rentals shall be those charged for comparable housing accommodations as of July 1, 1941.

### AUTO ACCIDENT VICTIM IDENTIFIED

A woman who was struck and fatally injured at 21st and Illinois streets on November 20th, by a hit-run driver, was identified at City Morgue this week by a friend as Mrs. Ora Lauderback, 55 years old who probably lived in the 1900 block Capitol avenue. The body is unclaimed at the morgue. Within another week Dr. Roy B. Storms, coroner, will order a county burial.

### Public Invited:

## War Manpower Aid to Speak At Flanner Dinner Here Friday

With hundreds of persons awaiting the message on "Democracy and Negro Manpower", which Dr. Robert C. Weaver, assistant to the director of the War Manpower Commission, is scheduled to deliver here at the Phyllis Wheatley YWCA Friday night, the annual Flanner House Founders' day dinner has drawn added interest. As principal speaker for this occasion, Dr. Weaver will have the opportunity of bringing latest information on and developments in the national industrial picture as it relates to the Negro.

His background in the fields of housing and labor, as well as his work recently in the Manpower commission, makes his observations relative to the industrial bottleneck in this city of great interest. It is reported that Mr. Weaver may reflect the attitude of Paul V. McNutt, Manpower commission chief, relative to the full use of labor in the local field as opposed to bringing many workers to an already over-crowded, underhoused area.

There will be a general meeting, open to the public, following a dinner meeting; there will be no charge for admission. Persons desiring to hear this eminent American official, who occupies one of the most significant positions in the government and whose duty it is to place at the disposal of industry the tremendous reservoir of Negro labor, are urged to come early.

Other speakers on the program will include Cleo W. Blackburn, Frank B. Flanner and Jackie W. Joseph. The Rev. E. Burdette Backus, pastor of All Souls Unitarian church, will give the invocation. Music will be by the Foster Hall quartet.

### National Aid Sought As Probe Continues Here

### WAR TRAINEE SUES FOR JOB

CLEVELAND, Dec. 4. (ANP)—A suit against the Warner and Swasey company of this city was filed here last week by Miss Effie M. Turner, a Cleveland citizen, charging discrimination in regard to employment on the sole grounds of race and color. Miss Turner, who is qualified for the kind of work in which the Warner and Swasey company is engaged, the manufacturing of war instruments and munition, was turned down recently she declared when it is learned that she was a Negro, although the company had issued an almost "pleading" advertisement for workers.

Miss Turner, who has been trained at the expense of the United States government in the operation of the lathe, milling, drill press, and shaper machines, is represented in her suit by Chester K. Gillespie, prominent Ohio lawyer. In her brief she declares that her fight will be a fight for Negro women everywhere to demand the right to work in plants aiding the war effort. Miss Turner also states that she believes that anyone controlling such a plant who denies a citizen work on the basis of color, race or creed, does not believe in the principles for which the war is being fought and there by sabotages the war effort.

### REV. ANDERSON, EX-GARY PASTOR MAY GET LIFE

EAST ORANGE, N. J., Dec. 4. (ANP)—After five days of testimony Judge Flannagan Friday, found Rev. James A. Anderson, pastor of the Mount Olive Baptist church, guilty of the murder of his mother-in-law, Mrs. Bertha Borders, wife of the Rev. Henry T. Borders, pastor of Hopewell Baptist church, Newark.

The minister was charged with shooting Mrs. Borders last August 31, on a walk beside the church after running amuck and threatening to "kill the whole d---mn family."

Atty. Isidor Kalish representing the defendant sought to introduce temporary insanity resulting from "interference" by his "in-laws" in his domestic affairs.

Kalish charged that Mrs. Borders had attempted to persuade her daughter not to return to the Anderson home after a quarrel between the couple.

The prosecutor contended that that Anderson planned the murder and that he drove from his home here to Newark with the gun in his automobile.

Mrs. Cleo Frederickson, the minister's sister-in-law, who was wounded so seriously by the shotgun fire it was feared she would die, appeared as the chief witness for the state.

Mrs. Frederickson testified that Anderson had threatened to "kill the whole damn family." She described how he had rushed from the Borders' house to his car to get the shotgun and how he fired at her and her mother.

Several motions by Anderson's counsel for a mistrial were denied by the court. The minister's conviction subjects him to a term of life imprisonment.

By Opal Tandy  
Colonel Walter S. Elliott, commander of Camp Atterbury, promised to investigate thoroughly every possible angle of the incident involving a colored commissioned officer who was struck on the head and arrested here last week by a city policeman, but declined to state what final action will be taken by his office.

His statement was in answer to a query on the part of Mrs. Priscilla Dean Lewis, president of the local branch of the NAACP, who along with other civic organizations, are interested in First Lieutenant Warren Cornelius, of the 356th Infantry at Camp Atterbury.

Lieutenant Cornelius and Lieutenant Jerry Davis are reported to have demanded service in the Fendrich Lunch Counter at Terminal Station early last Sunday morning and were refused by the management. Upon their refusal to leave a policeman, Officer James Burford of the second district, was called.

In his police report Officer Burford, wrote that he had asked Cornelius to leave "peacefully or otherwise," and that as they started out of the door Cornelius resisted and he struck him once on the head with his night-stick. Lieutenant Cornelius admitted that he placed on the police emergency squad which had been called and sent to police headquarters in a patrol wagon where he was charged with being disorderly, drunk, and resisting arrest. A white MP reluctantly assisted Officer Burford after saying that he alone could not arrest Cornelius because he had not seen him do anything wrong.

Lieutenant Cornelius said that he and Lieutenant Davis went to the lunch counter and sat down in a booth. The waitress, Kay Lucey, 22, white, 1439 North Alabama street, asked them to leave, Cornelius said, because they did not serve colored people in booths. She had a policeman with her when she first came, Cornelius said. Cornelius admitted that he protested against this type of treatment but did not say anything seditious and started to leave with the policeman. As they reached the door, Cornelius said, Officer Burford struck him four times on the head.

When they got to the station, Cornelius said, he told the desk sergeant that he had been mistreated and the sergeant allegedly replied that he was lucky he did not get hanged. They refused him a test to determine whether he was drunk or not, Cornelius said, and held him in the station house incommunicado for eight hours. Then he was released to military authorities.

Organizations Investigate.  
Mrs. Lewis, who went to Camp Atterbury Sunday as part of her investigation, talked to Colonel Elliott at length on the matter and he told her that he was not sure whether he would file suit against the lieutenant or not. He stated however that he would study all matters of the report but could not say what he would do until he had sufficiently questioned Lieutenant Cornelius. Mrs. Lewis' action represented part of a Citizens committee, composed of several civic and fraternal organizations, which have formed a co-

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### Recorder Good Fellows

## Launch Annual Fund Drive To Help City's Unfortunate

More than a month ago the first appeal from a needy family was made to the INDIANAPOLIS RECORDER GOOD FELLOWS CHRISTMAS CHEER FUND and the group, which has been a great many years has been "friend" to many who otherwise would be forgotten, must now face one of the greatest jobs it has yet faced—for the war has made a tremendous difference in the way that the Good Fellows must work this year.

The rigors of rationing and transportation problems create new headaches which this hardy little

group must overcome—certainly it appears at first glance that some type voucher form must be used, a plan which will enable the needy persons to present their certificates or vouchers at stores or other specially named places in exchange for food, clothing, toys or whatever the person believes he or she children need most.

However, no set plan is ready to be announced at this time and persons are to be assured that their names and requests are daily being received and handled almost as in the many previous years. Full information will be released

very soon and every prospective client of the Good Fellows Cheer Fund is asked to co-operate in order that this may be the most successful year of service, despite the many obstacles.